

REMARKS

Claims 1, 3-16, 41 and 42 are in the application. Claims 17-40 and 43-48 are canceled as directed to non-elected inventions. Claim 2 has been canceled and incorporated into Claim 1. No claim is allowed.

In response to the Examiner's request to re-submit copies of the crossed-out references listed in Applicants' 1449 received by the Patent and Trademark Office on April 1, 2008, Applicants note that the references in question have already been cited and considered by the Examiner in the 1449 received by the PTO on January 12, 2004, and initialed by the Examiner on May 29, 2007.

Claims 1, 2, 15, 16, and 42 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being allegedly anticipated by Cole et al. (US 2004/0137978). This rejection is respectfully traversed.

As to dependent Claims 2, 15, 16, and 42, the argument set forth above is equally applicable here. The base claims being allowable, the dependent claims must also be allowable. It is respectfully requested that this rejection be withdrawn.

The examiner cites Par. [0119] and [0120] in Cole. However, the teachings in Cole are insufficient to anticipate the present claims. In Par. [0119], it is disclosed that game station **20** may comprise two separate units and that the second unit may be linked to the first with a wireless connection permitting transfer of credit information. Firstly, the gaming units are not peripheral devices. The present claims are directed to the gaming machine itself and its peripherals, not two gaming machines. Secondly, Par. [0119] discloses the transmittal of only credit information between machines. That is not the same as managing and configuring peripherals to a gaming machine. Furthermore, Par. [0120] discloses that two games (not gaming machines) may be linked to a single coupon reader, either through a single master controller, or through separate gaming controllers. This does not show that a gaming controller in a gaming machine necessarily wirelessly manages and configures the coupon reader. In view of the teachings of Par. [0119], if there is any wireless communication, it is only to transmit credit information. The wireless configuration of any device peripheral to a gaming machine is simply not disclosed. Accordingly, it is submitted that the rejection under 35 USC 102(e) must be withdrawn.

Claims 3-14 and 41 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being allegedly unpatentable over Cole in view of Lazzarotto et al (US 6,782,194). The indicated patent number does not correspond to Lazzarotto et al. For the purposes of this discussion it will be presumed that the examiner intended to rely upon Lazzarotto et al. ("Lazzarotto"), US 6,782,245. If this is an incorrect assumption, it is requested that the examiner withdraw the final rejection and provide Applicant an opportunity to respond to a correctly cited, properly pertinent reference. This rejection is respectfully traversed. Claims 3-14 and 41 depend from Claim 1. Thus, the argument set forth above is equally applicable here. The reliance on Lazzarotto does not remedy the deficiencies of Cole. Accordingly, for the foregoing reasons, it is submitted that the combination of Cole and Lazzarotto does not form a *prima facie* case, and withdrawal of the rejection is earnestly solicited.

It is believed that entry of this amendment places the above-identified patent application in condition for allowance. Early favorable consideration of this amendment is earnestly solicited and Applicant respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If, in the opinion of the examiner, an interview would expedite the prosecution of this application, the examiner is invited to call the undersigned attorney at the number indicated below.

Applicant hereby petitions for an extension of time that may be required to maintain the pendency of this case, and any required fee for such extension or any further fee required in connection with the filing of this amendment is to be charged to Deposit Account No. 504480 (Order No. IGT1P060X2).

Respectfully submitted,
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